

Remarks:

Further to the objections raised in the Office Action dated March 17, 2005, Applicant has amended the claims. Entry of the amendments is hereby requested.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 2, and 4, and amended claims 3, 5, 6, and 7 without prejudice.


In response to the Examiner's objection to claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Ulrich, and to claims 1, 2, and 4 as anticipated by Forglone, Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 2, and 4.

It is submitted that the currently pending claims are patentably distinguished from the prior art of record.

Applicant respectfully requests that the application be returned to allowance, and that a patent term adjustment be credited to the Applicant based on the total number of days from mailing of the first Notice of Allowance on October 18, 2002 until the issuance of the present Office Action on March 17, 2005, which delay was incurred by the Patent Office.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's agent, Andrew Hicks at (403) 282-9889, if further discussion would assist in gaining prompt allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew R. Hicks, Reg # 39468
Hicks & Penman Ltd.
3553-31st Street NW
Calgary, AB
T2L 2K7